

GRAND CANYON LODGE, WESTERN DUPLEX CABIN
Grand Canyon National Park
North Rim
Grand Canyon National Park
Coconino County
Arizona

HABS No. AZ-135-B

HABS
ARIZ
3-GRACAN
14B-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS
ARIZ
3-GRACAN
14B-

GRAND CANYON LODGE, WESTERN DUPLEX CABIN
HABS NO. AZ-135-B

Location: East Side of Main Lodge Building
North Rim, Grand Canyon National Park
Coconino County, Arizona

UTM Reference: A. 12/405525/4006225
B. 12/405675/4006175
C. 12/405625/4006125
D. 12/405450/4006125

Present Owner: United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service-Western Regional
Office, 600 Harrison Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, California, 94107

Present Occupant: TWA Sevice, Inc.

Present Use: Guest Cabin

Significance: Grand Canyon Lodge, consisting of the main lodge building and Pioneer, Frontier, and Western cabins, is of regional architectural significance in association with, and as an outstanding example of the work of the master American architect, Gilbert Stanley Underwood. It is also, intrinsically, of regional significance as an outstanding example of the "rustic" style of architecture intended to harmonize buildings with both setting and environment, and as one of the very few major "rustic" hotels in the state of Arizona.

I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Please refer to the written historical information for the Grand Canyon Lodge, Main Lodge (HABS No. AZ-135-A) for historical background.

II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Merit and Interest: These cabins, with the use of the same materials as the main lodge buildings, blend with their environment as a harmonious part of the rustic architecture.

2. Condition of Fabric: Good

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: This four-bay front, one story, rectangular cabin is approximately eighteen feet by forty-two feet.

2. Foundation: Native Kaibab limestone forming a watertable, with cast iron foundation vents. Wooden piers are in the center with beams extending from each side.

3. Wall Construction, Finish, Color: Horizontal, peeled, half-logs with white mortar chinking between joints, with a wooden frame. Native limestone on the four corners.

4. Structural system, framing: Wooden frame with log ridgepole and log rafters and tie beams.

5. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: There is a large porch on one side. Some cabins have two porches on the long side only. On each corner there is a large log column resting on large stone bases. A log handrail extends between the columns, with log top and bottom rail and log balusters. The porch is covered with a gabled roof, with large log beams projecting beyond the columns. The log rafters are exposed and project into the overhang. The gable ends have vertical logs placed next to each other. The wooden floors have narrow boards. Skirting around the base is half-peeled logs. Some have stone and some have concrete steps. Porches on the ends have shed roofs.

6. Chimneys: There are two large stone fireplace chimneys on two corners. The massive native limestone extends through the roof and is capped with a metal-framed firescreen. There is a cement asbestos flue through the roof from the water heater room.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: The entrance to each bedroom is from the porch. The doorway has a wooden surround, wooden threshold and sill and a wooden door. The door has a single-panel with vertical wood planks applied to the exterior face.

b. Windows and shutters: Wooden windows in some cabins have six-light sliding sashes with a wooden track mounted on the face of the interior walls. There are wooden-framed screens on the exterior, painted dark green. Bathrooms in all the cabins have aluminum windows with horizontal sliding sashes. All windows have vertical half-logs at each lamb on the exterior.

8. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: Gable roofs have thick-butt wooden shingles, painted dark green. The porch gables intersect the main gable at right angles.

b. Cornice, eaves: Open eaves have exposed log rafter ends.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plan: There is an entrance on one end opening into a bedroom. There are two single windows on one wall at right angles to the door. The opposite wall has a double window. In the corner to the right of the door there is a large stone fireplace. In the opposite corner, on the inside wall, there is a closet that has been closed. A doorway directly opposite the entrance leads into a hallway. On one side of the hallway there is a closet and on the other is a doorway to the bathroom. At the end of the hallway there is a doorway leading to an identical hallway and bath, which is the connecting link to the two bedrooms. The other bedroom has a double window on the end wall and a double window on one side wall. The other side wall has an entrance door, with a window on one side of it, that leads to a porch.

2. Flooring: Narrow wooden planks covered with carpet in the bedrooms and hallways, and sheet vinyl in the bathrooms. The closets have wooden floors.

3. Walls and ceiling finish: Walls in the bedrooms have fiberboard with battens and a chair-rail, all painted white. The ceilings have exposed log rafters and tie beams with wooden planks. There is a half-log cornice trim around the room. The hallways and closets have gypsum board walls and ceilings painted white. The bathrooms have vinyl wall fabric and gypsum board ceilings. There is a ceramic tile wainscot around the room, extending approximately six feet high around the bathtub.

4. Doorways and doors: Single panel wooden doors with wooden surrounds, some having wooden thresholds.

5. Special decorative features, trim and cabinetwork: The corner fireplace in each bedroom is made of large limestones across the corner of the rooms to approximately four feet in height, forming a small mantel ledge. From the ledge the stone is stepped back and continues to the ceiling and through the roof. There is a small stone hearth in front of the fireplace. A large metal-framed screen extends across the opening. The fireplace has been converted to gas logs.

6. Mechanical Equipment:

a. Heating: Propane gas-fired space heater, vented through the wall.

b. Electrical: Modern lighting fixtures. The lighting fixture on each porch is a black wrought iron wall bracket extending from a round wall plate. The fixture is composed of a ring at the top and near the center, with four narrow straps extending downward and gently curving outward. There is a glass, domed-bottom globe screwed into the top ring.

c. Plumbing fixtures: Modern plumbing fixtures.

D. Site

1. General Setting and Orientation: Each cabin is predominantly oriented in a southeast-northwest direction along the horizontal axis. The cabins are located to the east side of the main lodge and are connected with a

GRAND CANYON LODGE, WESTERN DUPLEX CABIN
HABS No. AZ-135-B (page 5)

network of narrow concrete sidewalks. There are eighteen duplex cabins, two situated near the rim of the canyon on the south. They are nestled among ponderosa pine and locust trees. To the north of the duplex cabins, there are five quadplex cabins.

Prepared by: John P. White,
Project Supervisor
June, 1982